

The decision of Sinclair Broadcasting to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is wrong, unAmerican, and a clear and present example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. It is not in the public interest for one sided political programs to be aired, especially if the other side is not allowed to air an answer or rebuttal. When large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

We are presently in New York but also Californians and moving soon to an area that receives Sinclair stations. Even if we were not directly affected by this one-sided media control, we are Americans. It is unAmerican to run programs like this without giving the other side equal time, and to force member stations to run them. This program should not run on public airwaves in this country. Sinclair should be stopped in airing this program without opposing or rebuttal views. Thank you.